

Remarks/Arguments

This Amendment is in response to the Notice of Allowability mailed on March 25, 2003. Claims 1-10 were allowed.

The Examiner has objected the drawings under CFR 1.83(a), stating that the drawings did not show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. The Examiner specifically objected to the drawings stating that in Claim 1 and Claim 6, the drawings failed to show or depict the feature wherein the third status indication is being provided prior to the receipt of the second status indication. Applicants hereby request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings.

Applicants' attorney appreciates the courtesies extended by the examiner in the recent telephone conference. In the telephone conference, the examiner agreed with applicants' assertion that every feature of the invention specified in the claims is shown in the figure and indicated that the applicants could overcome the objection to the drawings by providing a written response pointing out language in the specification and elements in the figure that support the invention recited in the claims.

Applicants believe that Figure 4, when read in conjunction with the specification (page 19, line 14 to page 20, line 2 and page 20, line 19 to page 21, line 6), clearly shows every feature of the invention specified in claims 1 and 6. Referring to page 19, line 14, "After the controller 24 receives either of the messages 304, 306, the controller 24 then may generate and provide to the host node 124 (via the adapter 26 and the link 114) a respective status indication message 310 that may indicate that the host node's data storage request 300 has been successfully completed by the system 112." Furthermore, "after the controller 24 receives this message 304 from the first memory board 100B, the controller 24 then may generate and provide to the second memory board 100A the request 308, and concurrently therewith, the controller 24 may generate and provide to the host node 124 a respective status indication message 310 that may indicate that the host node's data storage request 300 has been successfully completed by the system 112." (page 20 line 19 – page 21 line 2). When reading the two quoted sections in the specification and referring to Figure 4 in its totality, one skilled in the art would understand that the third status indication is provided to the data exchanging device prior

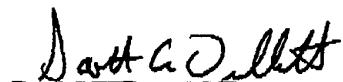
to the receipt by the controller of the second status indication, as recited in claims 1 and 6.

For the reasons given above, applicants respectfully assert that the drawings clearly show every feature specified in Claim 1 and Claim 6. Accordingly, applicants request that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn and that the application be passed to issuance upon payment of the issue fee.

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone discussion may assist in furthering this matter toward issuance in due course or should the Examiner have concerns or questions, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the number given.

Date: 7/29/2003

Respectfully submitted,



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